

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A nucleic acid expression cassette [[that]] capable of expressing human Factor IX, wherein the cassette is predominantly expressed in the mammalian liver, said cassette comprising:

- (a) an hepatic locus control element consisting of SEQ ID NO: 4 or SEQ ID NO: 9;
- (b) an hepatic promoter located 3' to the hepatic locus control element, said promoter consisting of SEQ ID NO: 5;
- (c) a Factor IX coding sequence located 3' to the hepatic promoter, said coding sequence ~~encoding a polypeptide~~ comprising SEQ ID NO: 2;
- (d) a polyadenylation signal located 3' to the ~~coding~~ intron sequence, said polyadenylation signal consisting of SEQ ID NO: 6; and
- (e) an intron located 3' to the hepatic promoter and 5' to the polyadenylation signal, wherein said intron consists of SEQ ID NO: 1,

wherein elements (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) are operably linked to express the polypeptide encoded by the coding sequence.

2. (Currently amended) The expression cassette of Claim 1, wherein said cassette directs expression of a therapeutic amount of the ~~polypeptide~~ Factor IX in liver cells for a period of at least 100 days, and further wherein said cassette is expressed in a transgenic animal or a recombinant AAV vector.

3. (Currently amended) The expression cassette of Claim 1, wherein said cassette directs expression of a therapeutic amount of the polypeptide in liver cells for a period of at least 300 days, and further wherein said cassette is expressed in a transgenic animal or a recombinant AAV vector.

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4. (Currently amended) The expression cassette of Claim 1, wherein said cassette directs expression of a therapeutic amount of the polypeptide in liver cells for a period of at least 500 days, and further wherein said cassette is expressed in a transgenic animal or a recombinant AAV vector.

5-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) The expression cassette of Claim 1, wherein the ~~coding sequence encodes a Factor IX polypeptide~~ cassette further comprises an untranslated region located 3' to the coding region and the intron, said untranslated region consisting of SEQ ID NO: 7.

16. (Original) The expression cassette of Claim 1, wherein the coding sequence encodes a Factor IX polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3.

17.-23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended) The expression cassette of Claim 1, ~~wherein the polyadenylation signal consists of the nucleic acid sequence set forth in~~ further comprising an enhancer sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO: [[6]] 8.

25-35. (Canceled)